

## Message Text

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47

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 301415Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9682

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 7586

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, MASS, SA, US

SUBJECT: SAUDI DEFENSE ATTEMPT TO PREEMPT JUBAYL  
INDUSTRIALIZATION SITE

1. WE HAVE LEARNED FROM A SOURCE CLOSE TO GOVERNOR  
TAHER THAT MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAS INFORMED PETROMIN THAT  
SITE AT JUBAYL SHOULD NOT BE USED FOR MAJOR INDUSTRIAL  
DEVELOPMENT. NAVY/PETROMIN MEETING WAS DESCRIBED AS  
EXTREMELY DIFFICULT WITH NEITHER SIDE GIVING  
IN. NO RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT, WITH MODA CLAIMING THAT  
SHIPPING TRAFFIC THIS CLOSE TO ITS MAJOR NEW BASE WOULD  
DISRUPT SONAR WATCH OVER "RUSSIAN"USE OF SEA LANES  
TO IRAQ.

2. WE ARE NOT AT ALL CERTAIN THAT THIS NEW MODA  
POLICY HAS THE FULL APPROVAL OF PRINCE SULTAN. ISSUE  
SEEMS NEVER TO HAVE BEEN RAISED IN COUNCIL OF MINISTERS  
NOR MENTIONED TO ECONOMIC COMMISSION BY THE CIVILIAN  
TECHNICAL MINISTERS AS A POSSIBLE ISSUE. EMBASSY HAS FELT THAT  
DECISION TO USE JUBAYL FOR JOINT FACILITIES WAS MADE WITHOUT  
FULL THOUGHT BEING GIVEN TO THE IMPLICATIONS OF SUCH  
CROWDED SITING AND CERTAINLY THE NAVAL BASE SHOULD BE  
REPOSITIONED NORTH AND UPWIND OF THE INDUSTRIAL SITE.  
HOWEVER, JIDDA NAVAL BASE IS EQUALLY CLOSE TO CIVILIAN  
PORT. WE THINK IT IS LIKELY THAT THIS ISSUE MAY BE  
RESOLVED, THOUGH NOT WITHOUT REFERRAL TO PRINCE FAHD  
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AND PERHAPS THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS ITSELF. THERE

IS NO GOOD ALTERNATIVE TO USING JUBAYL FOR MAJOR INDUSTRIES  
CONSIDERING THE SIZE OF SHIPS INVOLVED. NAVAL BASE COULD  
BE MOVED MORE EASILY (BUT WON'T BE).  
AKINS

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, DISPUTES, CIVIL DEFENSE, MILITARY POLICIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 30 DEC 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** MorefiRH  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Subject:** SAUDI DEFENSE ATTEMPT TO PREEMPT JUBAYL INDUSTRIALIZATION SITE  
**TAGS:** EAID, MASS, SA, US  
**To:** STATE  
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